

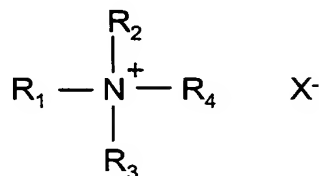
Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the Abstract of the Disclosure with the following:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A quaternary ammonium composition is claimed which essentially consists of

a) a cationic compound with general formula:



wherein R₁ is C₈-C₂₂-alkyl, C₈-C₂₂-alkenyl, C₈-C₂₂-alkylamidopropyl, C₈-C₂₂-alkenyl-amidopropyl, C₈-C₂₂-alkyl/alkenyl(poly)alkoxyalkyl, C₈-C₂₂-alkanoylethyl or C₈-C₂₂-alkenoylethyl, R₂, R₃ and R₄ are C₁-C₂₂-alkyl, C₂-C₂₂-alkenyl or a group of the formula -A-(OA)_n-OH, A is -C₂H₄- and/or -C₃H₆-, n is a number from 0 to 20 and X is an anion, b) water and c) a non-ionic solvent of the general formula R-O-(AO)_nH, where R is hydrogen, alkyl or alkenyl containing 8 to 22 carbon atoms, or phenyl, A is C₂H₄ and/or C₃H₆ and n is a number from 0 to 20, which composition is characterized in that it contains less than 20 % by weight of water.